

Message Text

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ORIGIN ACDA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-10 ISO-00 SS-15 OES-07 PM-05
NSC-05 DOE-15 SOE-02 IO-13 /097 R

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EA/ROC:DGBROWN
DOE:GHELFRICH
OES/NET:DCOOPER
IO:AJILLSON

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P R 140020Z APR 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY VIENNA PRIORITY
INFO AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 095715

USIAEA

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: IAEA/ PARM, TW

SUBJECT: SAFEGUARDS PROCEDURES AT TRR

REFERENCE: (A) VIENNA 3285, (B) STATE 305274, (C)
TAIPEI 1020

1. MEASUREMENT PROPOSAL OUTLINED IN REF (A) IS ACCEPTABLE
TO US. ASSUME THAT REFERENCE TO 100 RODS IN PARA 1.D(11)
IS A TYPOGRAPHICAL ERROR; IF NOT, WO;LD APPRECIATE
CLARIFICATION. A PROPOSED PROGRAM PLAN WITHIN THE SCOPE
OF REFS (A), (B), (C) AND THE CHENG/THORNE LETTER EXCHANGE
IS PROVIDED IN PARA 6 BELOW.

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2. RE PARA 6 OF REF (A), MENZEL (ACDA) INFORMALLY
PROVIDED SUBSTANCE OF PROPOSAL TO ROC EMBASSY SCIENCE
COUNSELOR SUNG ON APRIL 6. ALTHOUGH US ANTICIPATES
COMPLETE ROC COOPERATION, DEPT HAS NOT YET HAD FORMAL
EXCHANGE WITH ROC ON PROPOSAL. IT IS PLANNED TO TRANSMIT
PROPOSAL IN PARA 6 BELOW TO SUNG IN WASHINGTON ON
APRIL 14. US WILL ASK ROC TO REQUEST IAEA TO UNDERTAKE

THIS PROGRAM AND TO INITIATE PROMPT INVITATION FOR IAEA INSPECTOR TO VISIT TAIWAN APRIL 27-28 FOR PREPARATORY TECHNICAL MEETING AT TRR.

3. REGARDING YOUR REQUEST IN PARA 7 OF REF (A), DEPT RECOMMENDS RAMALHO FIRM UP PLANS FOR APRIL 27-28 DISCUSSIONS. MENZEL AND TECHNICAL EXPERT JOHN PHILLIPS (LASL) PLAN TO ARRIVE TAIPEI ON APRIL 26. (TRAVEL PLANS FOLLOW SEPTTEL.)

4. MISSION REQUESTED TO CONVEY TO IAEA SUBSTANCE OF PARAS 1-3 ABOVE AND PROVIDE COPY OF PARA 6 BELOW. MISSION IS ALSO REQUESTED TO PROVIDE DEPT WITH EXPECTED IAEA REPLY AGREEING TO FORTHCOMING ROC REQUEST FOR PROPOSED MEASUREMENT PROGRAM.

5. FOR TAIPEI: VISIT BY US REPS IS NOT REPEAT NOT EQUIVALENT TO OR IN LIEU OF NUCLEAR TEAM VISIT UNDER DISCUSSION. MENZEL WILL BE TRAVELLING TO TAIPEI SOLELY FOR THE PURPOSE OF ENSURING THE DESIGN OF AN EFFECTIVE AND THOROUGH MEASUREMENTS PROGRAM. WASHINGTON AGENCIES BELIEVE THAT US REPS SHOULD RESTRICT THEIR ACTIVITIES TO THIS PURPOSE AND THAT OTHER POSSIBLE ACTIVITIES AT INER SHOULD BE POSTPONED UNTIL SUBSEQUENT VISIT OF A US NUCLEAR TEAM. END CONFIDENTIAL.

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6. BEGIN OFFICIAL USE ONLY. THE FOLLOWING PROGRAM PLAN HAS BEEN DEVELOPED IN CONSULTATION WITH IAEA:

VERIFICATION OF CORE RELOAD AT THE TAIWAN RESEARCH REACTOR (TRR)

(A) THE PURPOSE OF THIS PROGRAM IS TO VERIFY BY MEASUREMENT THE LOADING OF ALL FUEL ELEMENTS AND SAMPLE RODS, WHETHER NEW OR PREVIOUSLY IRRADIATED, INTO THE REACTOR CORE. THE PROGRAM ENTAILS COMMON EQUIPMENT AND PROCEDURES FOR THE MEASUREMENT OF A RANDOMLY SELECTED POPULATION OF RODS FOR INDEPENDENT IAEA INSPECTION PURPOSES WITH CONCURRENT MEASUREMENTS OF THE ENTIRE POPULATION FOR JOINT R&D PURPOSES. THE PROGRAM INCLUDES TECHNICAL SUPPORT PROVIDED BY THE US TO MAKE THE SUPPLEMENTARY R&D MEASUREMENTS WITHOUT SIGNIFICANTLY AFFECTING THE SCHEDULING AND DURATION OF THE IAEA INSPECTION MEASUREMENTS. ALTHOUGH THE EQUIPMENT WILL BE USED FOR BOTH PURPOSES, INDEPENDENT CALIBRATION BY THE IAEA WILL BE ENSURED. THE PROGRAM INVOLVES STRONG TECHNICAL AND OPERATIONAL SUPPORT BY TRR STAFF FOR THE MEASUREMENT SETUP AND FUEL ROD HANDLING.

(B) ON APRIL 27-28, IAEA INSPECTOR DR. ANTONIO RAMALHO IS ANTICIPATED TO BE AVAILABLE FOR TECHNICAL PREPARATORY DISCUSSIONS AT TRR PRIOR TO A FOUR-WEEK INSPECTION TOUR IN JAPAN. THE PURPOSE FOR THESE

DISCUSSIONS WILL BE TO REVIEW IN DETAIL THE TRR FUEL HANDLING PROCEDURES AND POSSIBLE LOCATIONS FOR THE INSTRUMENTAL SETUP, AND TO FINALIZE THE SELECTION OF A SUITABLE MEASUREMENT LOCATION, PROCEDURE, EQUIPMENT, AND SCHEDULE. US TECHNICAL EXPERTS DR. JOERG MENZEL (ACDA) AND DR. JOHN PHILLIPS (LASL) WILL BE AVAILABLE TO ASSIST IN THESE DISCUSSIONS. PENDING FINAL DETERMINATION OF PROGRAM PLAN DETAILS, PRELIMINARY PLANS FOR THE ACTUAL
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MEASUREMENTS ARE DESCRIBED BELOW.

(C) DR. RAMALHO HAS INDICATED THAT HE IS PREPARED TO RETURN TO TAIWAN TO DIRECT THE ACTUAL MEASUREMENT PROGRAM IN EARLY JULY (TENTATIVELY JULY 10); A SECOND IAEA INSPECTOR MAY JOIN DR. RAMALHO AT THAT TIME. THE US WILL MAKE AVAILABLE UP TO THREE TECHNICAL EXPERTS WITH TWO SETS OF INSTRUMENTS. IF AGREEABLE TO IAEA, THE US EXPERTS COULD COMPLETE THE SETUP AND TEST PROCEDURES OF THE EQUIPMENT IN TIME FOR THE IAEA'S INDEPENDENT CALIBRATION CHECK. IT IS ENVISAGED THAT THE MEASUREMENT PROGRAM WOULD BE CONDUCTED OVER A TWO-WEEK PERIOD WITH SIX WORKING DAYS PER WEEK AND TWO EIGHT-HOUR SHIFTS PER DAY. ALL MEASUREMENTS OF RODS INDEPENDENTLY PRESELECTED BY THE IAEA ON A RANDOM BASIS WOULD BE MADE DURING THE DAY-SHIFT BY IAEA. SUITABLE CONTAINMENT/SURVEILLANCE MEASURES WOULD BE TAKEN BY THE IAEA FOR PERIODS OF INSPECTOR ABSENCE.

(D) IN ADDITION TO THE VERIFICATION OF THE CORE RELOAD AT THE TRR, THE IAEA HAS SUGGESTED TO VERIFY CONCURRENTLY OR SUBSEQUENTLY TO THE MEASUREMENTS ABOVE THE VERIFICATION OF ABOUT 60 FUEL RODS STORED IN THE COOLING POND BEFORE TRANSFER INTO DRY STORAGE. THE DETAILED ARRANGEMENTS FOR THESE MEASUREMENTS ARE EXPECTED TO BE WORKED OUT DURING THE APRIL 27-28 TECHNICAL MEETING. THE US ALSO IS PREPARED TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE FOR THESE MEASUREMENTS ALONG THE LINES OF PARAGRAPH C ABOVE. END OFFICIAL USE ONLY. CHRISTOPHER

NOTE BY OC/T: DISSEMINATION COORDINATED WITH S/S-O, TOBIN.

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